



The Friends of  
Thringstone



'Working together to improve our village'

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We are also on facebook/twitter. Twitter address @Thringstone2

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6 APRIL 2017 AT THRINGSTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Present:** Nita Pearson, Bernard Lee, Pam Porter, Pat Darby, Mary and Nigel Roberts, Ron Hill, Ann Petty, Tracy Foulds, Anita Jones, Dave and Julie Everitt, Maureen Simm, Pat Hubbard, Shirley Gordon, Kathy Mardon, Geoff Walker, Bill Enser

**Apologies:** Tam Bream, Janet Stevenson, John Jackson, Mike Statham

### Discussions/Decisions.

**Planting** - It is regrettable to report that a lot of the daffodils planted by us have been picked, both by adults and children, and a fair number have also been jumped on or de-headed. We also believe that some planted down Millhouse have been dug up, as there are indentations in the soil. This has been reported on facebook and a lot of support given to us by equally outraged people. In addition, due to 2 shopping trolleys being taken from Morrison's and down Drury Lane a fortnight ago, a lot of the planting down there was smashed. Whilst the trolleys whereabouts were reported to Morrisons the same day, unfortunately, one of the trolleys ended up in the brook. Many thanks go to Tony Dandy for getting this out of the brook, and returning this to the store. We do not know what the answer is, other than to consider, in the future, only planting low growing varieties or other things altogether.

**Thringstone Music Festival** – This is happening on 5 August, as previously mentioned, and organisation is underway to provide a good event for the village. Last year, FoT donated £250 to the festival fund. *It was agreed that FoT donate the same amount this year to the music festival funds.*

**Anti-Social behaviour** - There have been increasing amounts of anti-social behaviour in the village, including the riding of quad bikes in and around the woodland, setting of fires in the woodland, and recently the vandalizing of a Fiat Punto car thought to have been stolen from a Coalville address on the car park off Melrose Road and the torching of another car parked on Dalkeith Walk. An email was sent to all members on this, but for the benefit of people who don't have email, the message is clear – if you see anything of an anti-social nature, please report it to the police on 101. By so doing, this can be logged, and the police are more likely to take action. (See police report).



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**Bull's Head** – We understand that Crown Carveries group intend for all their establishments to offer fresh pizzas and burgers. As a result, the Bull's Head is closing for 2 weeks on 8 May for the work to be carried out. They say that this is a great money spinner, and will bring more people to the establishment.

**Miners' Gala 25 June** – we have a stand at this event, and want to do wine and water and also sell publications. Does anybody want to help on the stall and with set up. Set up will be from 9am (we will need help with getting a table), and also need donations of wine for the stall, and someone to work with Nita until it closes at 6pm.

**Volunteers' week** - 1-7 June. We have sent off for a resource pack. If anybody fancies working with Nita on organizing something during this week, please let her know.

**Prominent women event in October** – We have been speaking to several people about this event, and understand that Ashby will be sending displays relating to Selina, Countess of Huntingdon who has connections with the Methodist movement. Swannington intend putting together information on Annie Moss, wife of Walter Moss the builder of Coalville about whom we have also been researching, as well as other prominent women with a connection to that village. As well as living in Hugglescote and Coalville, the family lived for some time in Swannington, and Annie was very involved with the Adult School in Bridge Road, where her husband was at one time president of the ladies school. She worked during WW1 with the VAD hospital at Broomleys, where injured soldiers praised her work and care. Ravenstone are going to be putting something together again on Rebecca Wilkes, Whitwick Historical Group is going to be looking at, amongst others, Marlene Reid, we are putting a display together on the priory founder and also on Mary Booth, and Newbold are also putting something together. We are hopeful that Wendy Freer might be able to bring a film she made, and are also talking to other possible contributors. We are intending to invite a current day prominent woman to open the event. We are also intending to have cake sales again if anybody is interested.

**Monthly litter pick total** – 160 against 167 for March last year.

The folks at **Grace Dieu Park Cricket Club** have asked us to put out a message to all dog owners. People are allowing their dogs to foul all round the outside of the field. Some of it is in bags that aren't then put in the bin near the Bull's Head, and some just don't pick up at all. They are having to pay for signage to try to get this stopped. If you have a dog and take it on the pitch, please clear up after your dog. The season starts in a month's time. This message has been put out on both our twitter and facebook pages.

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Nita received several local complaints about the care home **on Loughborough Road** putting all their recycling in the garden refuse bins. These were left out and not collected and then left for over a week outside the property on the pavement. Nita sent an email to the care home HQ as well as leaving a message at their HQ. This received no response, so Nita visited the home and agreed to get them more red boxes and explained about the recycling system, about which the person speaking to Nita had no knowledge at all. On taking these boxes to the property, there was nobody there except a decorator, so in order to help, Nita filled the 3 boxes she had just got with recycling from the garden refuse bins, but at least ¾ of each bin was left full of items. A letter was subsequently delivered to the care home, explaining what the local recycling arrangements are, since in the garden refuse bins were all sorts of items which are not taken by crews, including carrier bags, wrappers and the like, all mixed together. No acknowledgement has been received to date and on the last recycling day, nothing was put out for collection.



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### Chairs Report

#### Letters received:

- None

#### Emails received:

- Various from people with whom we regularly share information

#### Emails sent:

- Various to groups and individuals as usual. Reported several cases of flytipping.

#### Promotion:

- We have **444 twitter followers**, which 4 more than last month and **412 facebook followers**, which is 17 more than last month.
- The article already in other papers regarding the defib at The Meadows appeared in the Community Voice magazine for March.

### Finance Report

<b>Gen Fund held 1st of month</b> (bank + petty cash + float)	<b>£2,193.58</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Publications	£6	Broadband	£10.50
Raffle	£10	Centre photocopying	£24.80
Memberships	£3.50	Teamprint Bauble printing	£36.60
		Approved donation to Centre	£50.00
		RCC subscription	£50.00
Donations		Drinks at last meeting	£19.60
<b>total income to general fund</b>		Total expenditure	£191.50
	£19.50	<b>Total general fund at month end</b>	<b>£2021.58</b>

### Publications Report

Nita sold a pubs book for £6 to someone who contacted us through facebook

### Web Report

No additions since last report.

### Police Report

- There are continued meat thefts from Thringstone Co-op.
- There are also continuing problems with motorbikes and quad bikes in and around the woodland. The police and council are aware, and action is being taken. However, if you see quad bikes in the woods, rather than just grumbling about it to yourself and others, report it to 101.
- A lady on Main Street saw her door handle being turned, but no entry was gained. Her outside light has now been fixed, adding to her sense of security.



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- The door and window of a home in Glebe Road were damaged over the weekend of 11/12 March by someone trying to gain entry to the property.
- Fire fighters were called in the early hours of the morning of 17 March to a fire in the garage court off Melrose Road. It is thought that the fire was deliberately started.
- There were reports of men hanging round a garden on Henson's Lane. The police were called by which time the men had disappeared.
- As mentioned earlier a suspected stolen Fiat Panda car was vandalized on the car park off Melrose Road. This was removed by NWLDC on 3 April.
- The car belonging to someone on the Woodside Estate was deliberately torched recently. The fire brigade attended, and the matter is in the hands of the police.
- A red car smashed through the gates on Turlough Road by the hardstanding and went into the woodland. The gate was completely smashed, leaving that access to the woods open. This was reported to the police and to the de Lisle family direct.
- *Maureen Simm said there had been police at the garages on Clover Place recently and a car had been removed. Nobody had any knowledge of this.*
- *We also heard that the police had been to Badgerscroft recently, but nobody knew why.*

### Community Report and What's On

**The Smigfest music festival** in aid of Papworth hospital that took place in Hugglescote on 24 March looks to have raised in excess of £3,100. Many thanks to everybody involved.

NWLDC's Housing management Team raised £320 for **Brain Tumour Research** from a Wear a Hat Day, which was promoted only through word of mouth. Amongst other things, this involved an 8 a side kick around and penalty shoot out at Hermitage Leisure Centre

A charity event at **The King's Arms, Coleorton** raised £265 for CHIPS (Children's Happiness Involves People), taking the total up to £450. Thank you to all who came and supported the event, and to those who donated raffle prizes.

**Thringstone Primary** raised £140.29 at a collection on Comic Relief Day at which a talent show was also arranged.

New children's Kick Boxing Class with Confidence Academy starting shortly on a Wednesday night at **Thringstone Miners Welfare** at 6pm. First month's classes will be FREE. Contact Confidence Academy on 455720 for more details..

- 14 April – **Good Friday Tea Dance** – Beaumont Centre, Peggs Green/Coleorton with Loughborough Loves Vintage. 6pm til 10.30pm. Tickets £12 which includes dance tuition from Red and Ginger and music from Andy B Goode. Unlimited tea and coffee plus afternoon tea-style dinner. Tickets must be booked in advance from Laurie May of Loughborough Loves Vintage, which can only be achieved from going onto the Loughborough Does Vintage facebook page.
- 14 April – **Thringstone Members Club** – Soul evening 8pm-late. £3 entrance. Dance the night away to your favourite soul and motown tracks.
- 15 April – **Thringstone Members Club** – Quiz night. Starts at 8pm with quizmaster John Squires. £5 per team. All welcome
- 17 April - Easter at **Hough Mill, Swannington**, 2pm-4pm. Book your place so that your child is guaranteed an Easter egg. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/.../easter-at-the-mill>.
- 17 April – **Hare and Hounds** – Children's Easter egg hunt, 1pm-2pm. Prizes and bouncy castle. All welcome.



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- 17 April – Kegworth Market Place – **Easter Charter Market**. 10am-1pm. Features Bare Bones Morris Dancers, stocks (throw things at your friends), and various fun and laughter.
- 23 April – **Lute Music in the Great Chamber at Donington le Heath Manor House**. Starts at 1.30pm. The cost of this event is included in the admission price to the house and gardens.
- 23 April – Ravenstone's **St George's Day** Celebrations - Open from 12 noon. Lots of fun for all the family.
- 28 April – **Hare and Hounds** – Matt Symons, singing sensation from 9pm. Free entry. Fizz Friday and Free Buffet 6-8pm before the show starts.
- 30 April – **Conny Club** Spring Music Festival, Silver Street, Whitwick – 1pm-pm. All welcome.
- 6 May – Donington le Heath Manor House **Plant Sale** 10am-4pm. Entry to gardens and plant fair only £1.
- 7 May – **Hermitage Leisure Centre** – Blood donation session from 1pm-3.30pm and 5pm-7.45pm. To book an appointment call 03001 232323 or visit [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk).
- 12 May – A Question of Love – Nick Gravestock and Carmel Edwards at **Donington le Heath Manor House**. This evening will comprise of songs and poems from the Elizabethan period. Doors open at 7pm fr 7.30pm start. £7.50 per person. Please book by contacting the manor house direct.
- 14 May – Loughborough Does Vintage **fashion event** from 11am til 3pm at Rosebery St Peter's Community Centre, Loughborough (near Storer Road just off the Ashby Road). Vintage clothes home ware and gifts, plus live music. Milkshakes available plus afternoon tea. £2 entry on the day.
- 16-20 May – Thringstone Panto and Drama Society's production of **White Christmas** at Thringstone House Community Centre. Tickets £8 for adults, children £7. Tickets can be bought by ringing 834575 or by contacting [tickets@tpads.org.uk](mailto:tickets@tpads.org.uk)
- 20 May – Century Theatre presents a tribute to **Tommy Cooper** with John Hewer. This is an award winning show from the Edinburgh fringe. Starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £12 from the theatre direct.
- 26 May – **Hare and Hounds** – Ladies Night - from 8pm. A whole host of fun including Ann Summers and Avon, butlers for personal drinks service and delicious Fizz Friday deal too! Plenty of fun and games (most of which will be naughty if not hilarious) and there will be some prizes to be won too! **FREE EVENT!**
- 27 May – **Conkers** – Bon Jovi UK – Tribute act. 8pm start. Adults £14, children £8. Book online on 01283 216633. Free parking.
- 7-10 June – **Coalville Drama Group** present Hitchcock Blonde at the Adult School, Coalville. Tickets £8 or £6 concessions. Tickets available from [tickets@cvdg.co.uk](mailto:tickets@cvdg.co.uk) More details nearer the time.
- 21 June – **Melrose Road play area and surrounding grass** – Starting at 1pm, there will be a summer picnic afternoon. Bring your own blanket/chair/food and drink and whilst the children play on the equipment, adults can either sit and chat or get fit on the fitness equipment. All welcome.
- 25 June – **Picnic in the Parks and Miners Gala**, Coalville.
- 1 July – **Thringstone Primary** Summer Fayre.
- 7 July – D-Tour Theatre Company present **3 one act comedy plays** by David Tristram at Thringstone House Community Centre. Tickets will be £12.50 to include a fish and chip supper



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(alternative available if booked in advance). Curtain up at 7.30pm. Tickets will be available from the centre and from the theatre company direct on 07958 777191

- 15 July – **Gresley Youth Band** in concert at Thringstone House Community Centre. Start 7.30pm. Tickets £7 from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringtone](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringtone) or from the centre office, open Monday-Friday 9am-12noon.
- 22 July – **Hare and Hounds Music Festival**. More information nearer the time.
- 5 August – **Thringstone Live Music Festival 2017**. All day free music event at the community centre with doors open at 12 noon.
- 9 Sept – **Thringstone's Got Talent** at Thringstone Community Centre. Local acts putting on performances. The charity this year is the British Kidney Transplant Support Association.
- 7 October – Exhibition at the centre on **The Prominent Women of NW Leicestershire**. Will start at 12 noon and go on until about 5pm.
- 20 October – **Lesley Smith as Nell Gwynne** at Thringstone House Community Centre. Doors open at 7.30pm with performance starting at 8pm. Tickets £8 from the centre or from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/thringstone)
- 9 Dec - **Abba Tribute** at Thringstone House Community Centre. Further details nearer the time.

### History report

- Continuing from last month, we have been looking into the owners of the **John Street shop**. We have learnt that when John Barks owned the shop, his 70 year old mother ran it. It was in a poor condition when she left, as she hadn't been able to afford to stock it properly, and had even resorted to buying cigarettes from the paper shop in Main Street, at that time owned by Jack and Sheila King, and then selling them for the same price as she bought them in her own shop. When they left, Kay Northage took over. Kay, nee King, is married to Franklyn Northage and they kept the shop from 1979-1986 but for a lot of that, Franklyn continued to work at Whitwick pit until it closed. It took them a time to get the shop properly cleaned and stocked. They also bought the house next door. They had wanted to keep a post office, and left in 1986 to live in Heanor where they managed a post office there. In 1998 they returned to Thringstone to The Fox in Main Street. When they left the shop on John Street, Gerry and Manju Lakhman took over.. They left and went to run a petrol station in Quorn and then the present owners, Kanshan and Suresh Lakhman took it over around 1992.
- **The Fox** – Franklyn and his son Ashley Northage ran that for just short of 2 and a half years from 1998-2000 and lived in the flat above the pub. Kay continued to work for 14 months of that period in the post office in Heanor. Trade had fallen under the previous owners, and the Northage family worked hard and improved the trade at The Fox 10 fold in the period they were there. They only left after a run in with a tarmac gang who resurfaced the car park, without permission and then wanted £3k in payment. After a series of altercations and police involvement, they were paid £750. Details of this issue made the front page of the Leicester Mercury at the time. The pub closed for a week after this episode, and it was only on Kay's insistence that they re-opened on the first Friday in December 1999, when they were met with lots of customers, old and new and had a full pub. However, the couple felt uneasy about the situation with the tarmac gang and told the brewery (Greenall's) that they wanted to leave, and a new person was found who started in



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May 2000. That was Jeremy Clapham who is remembered for having a menagerie of animals at the pub. He also started to sell food, even though there was no downstairs kitchen.

- **Limited copies of the Rutland Echo and Leicestershire Advertiser** are now available to view on line through Findmypast. From this we have read of the death, at Gracedieu of George Allen Field Gough, son of George Gough, innkeeper of Thringstone on 7 May 1884 aged 15. He is buried close to the railings at St Andrew's. This helps us to establish that George James Gough was still at **The Rose and Crown** in 1884 which is new information. On 2 January 1886, there is mention of the marriage at Christ Church Coalville of **Frederick James Baker** of Thringstone to Rachel Wesierman of Coalville taking place on 25 Dec 1885. Frederick was a bricklayer, and the son of George and Emma Baker of Brook Terrace. Upon marriage, the couple lived in Belvoir Road, Coalville. There is also a full article on the cutting of the first sod for the **Charnwood Forest Railway** in the edition of 3 Sept 1881. It was hoped at that time that there would be a station, or at least a stand, at Thringstone, Whitwick, Shepshed, Gracedieu, Osgathorpe, Coalville and Loughborough.
- From a facebook contact, we have obtained **from David Rossell** various photos. We have one of his father Jack (properly John Alfred) who was born in Thringstone on 28 May 1902 and died in 1993, taken in the early 1960s. Jack was one of 11 children of Arthur Kettle Rossell born in Nottingham on 30 December 1867 and his wife Sarah Maria nee Webster born in Staffordshire on 4 November 1869. Sarah's mother Ann Maria had moved the family to Thringstone and she worked at Grace Dieu Manor. Arthur K Rossell had moved from Nottinghamshire to live in Shepshed. The Rossell's married in Thringstone at St Andrew's in April 1889. The Rossell family moved to Glenfield after their marriage, to live in a cottage by the railway line, before living in Talbot Lane for a decade or so, ending up in a rented cottage on Brook Lane near the rear of where Ruby's chip shop now stands. Alfred's initial career was a railway platelayer. He went on to become a stone carter, and ended up as a miner. They were very involved with the Methodist chapel. Their eldest son, Arthur William, known as William, died aged 19 on 5th June 1910 and was buried at St Andrew's. The burial index for St Andrew's says their address was Sandholes. William was a loader, working at Coleorton no. 3 pit (Bug and Wink) owned by Checkland and Co. On 2<sup>nd</sup> May, he went home and said he had caught his arm between the coal tub and the coal face. From this, he had received a scratch on his arm about three quarters of an inch long. He reported the accident and was advised to see a doctor. By 20<sup>th</sup> May, his leg had begun to swell as well, and he was unable to walk. He gradually got worse, and was taken to Leicester Infirmary as blood poisoning set in. He died as a result. An inquest was held and the jury returned a verdict of accidental death, caused by blood poisoning from infectious wounds on his right arm. Jack Rossell lived in the 1939 period at 8 Bauble Yard before moving to 21 Main Street. For more information on the Rossell family, please read the Born and Bred booklets, written by Alfred and Sarah Rossell's granddaughter, Joan. The photo we have of Jack Rossell was taken in his yard at Bauble Yard, (which David said was just like Steptoe's) with his chestnut Shetland stallion which he bought together with its stand so it could also cater for larger mares. You can see the community centre in the background. Jack Rossell would just about buy and sell anything as long as he knew he could make a few pounds



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on the deal. We also have a photo of the whole of the Rossell family from their time down Brook Lane, with the photo being dated about 1914. Another photo shows the community centre taken in the early 1950s from Talbot Lane -Edward Hicken's shed is shown on the left of the photos. Edward was amongst the first to have TV in the village. The picture gives a great view of Bob's Closs which apparently was rented by Jack Rossell. David recalls that this was a great place for sledging when there was snow. The village kids spent many happy hours there. The animals shown on the photo belonged to Jack Rossell.. The grey horse on the photo was, apparently, bought unbroken at Melton Market and David was first up on her back. The cows were his Jersey's which gave very rich milk and was good for making butter. The stone barn shown in the photo was the gymnasium and the small building to the left was the men's toilet. Where the scouts hut is now was part of Bob's Closs as were some of the allotments. There was a lot more flat area at the top of the Closs in those days. The fence has been moved forward into the field to make room for the car park and the scouts hut. We already had a photo of some boys demolishing the gym and taking away the rubbish but you can't see much of the building. *Ann had run off the photos which were shown to the meeting, together with a blown up part showing the difference to the centre and a photo showing the centre and closs from the same position now.* .The final photo we have is of David in Cyprus in the 1950s when on army service.

- From facebook, we now have a photo taken in the back garden of **The Star** in the 1960/70s.
- A posting on facebook of a 1977 advert for **Bradley's butchers** has been saved to our archives. The advert shows, amongst other prices, that sirloin steak was 84p a pound and a side of pork was 43p a pound. We did have some information about the butchers, but no adverts, and mentioned them in our businesses publication. From that posting, many people commented about how Mr Bradley used to deliver for free round the village, made lovely faggots with gravy, which often didn't make it home if children were sent to fetch these, and someone mentioned a previous butcher called Biggs. Does anybody have any knowledge of Mr Biggs?
- Following on from the last minutes, where we reported on receiving a photo that included Charles Booth, we understand that the **Seals factory** started in Leicester in 1898, the foundation stone for the factory in Whitwick was laid on 15 September 1910 and the factory opened in 1911.
- We understand that **Coalville Heroes Project** is looking at the possibility of arranging pop-up museums in this area, especially given the closure of Snibston Discovery Park and the storing away of so many artefacts from there as a result. We have suggested Thringstone Community Centre as a venue. They are also looking at the potential for mobile apps to be used to tell people about local history as they walk by.
- A heritage group for Coalville has been put forward, and a day's course advertised, at which a **heritage strategy plan**, to include Thringstone, would be produced. We have asked if others are going, as it is unlikely that we can find the time to spend a day on this ourselves.

### **Councillors' report**

Nothing to report.

Pam asked about the new position for the Leisure Centre if this were to move from its current position. Some information was shared, although nothing is definite.



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### **Gardening and environment**

A very old bush on the barren piece of land off Drury Lane rotted away and fell on the planting, so Bernard removed it. Bernard has also done some weeding and pruning down Drury Lane and Millhouse Estate.

### **Centre matters**

The paperwork to start a move away from the county council has begun, and work is now underway to move forward. There is a lot of work still to do, and it is hopeful that the transfer will run smoothly. In the meantime, a lot of new events are being organized, not all music, but also including craft fayres and other things for villagers to enjoy.

### **AOB**

None

**Next meeting is 4 May 2017 at 6.45pm at Thringstone House Community Centre**



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